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(e) An Alaska Native-serving institution may receive a grant under section 317 of the HEA if—

(1) It satisfies the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section; and

(2) It has, at the time of application, an enrollment of undergraduate students that is at least 20 percent Alaska Native students.

(f) A Native Hawaiian-serving institution may receive a grant authorized under section 317 of the HEA if—

(1) It satisfies the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section; and

(2) It has, at the time of application, an enrollment of undergraduate students that is at least 10 percent Native Hawaiian students.

(g)(1) An institution that qualifies for a grant under the Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program (34 CFR part 608) or the Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program (34 CFR part 606) and receives a grant under either of these programs for a particular fiscal year is not eligible to receive a grant under this part for the same fiscal year.

(2) A tribal college or university that receives a grant under section 316 of the HEA or an Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian-serving institution that receives a grant under section 317 of the HEA may not concurrently receive other grant funds under the Strengthening Institutions Program, Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program, or Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions Program.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1057 et seq.)

[59 FR 41922, Aug. 15, 1994, as amended at 60 FR 15447, Mar. 23, 1995; 64 FR 70153, Dec. 15, 1999]

§ 607.3 What is an enrollment of needy students?

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, for the purpose of § 607.2(a)(1), an applicant institution has an enrollment of needy students if in the base year—

(1) At least 50 percent of its degree students received student financial assistance under one or more of the following programs: Pell Grant, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, College Work-Study, and Perkins Loan; or

(2) The percentage of its undergraduate degree students who were enrolled on at least a half-time basis and received Pell Grants exceeded the median percentage of undergraduate degree students who were enrolled on at least a half-time basis and received Pell Grants at comparable institutions that offer similar instruction.

(b) The Secretary may waive the requirement contained in paragraph (a) of this section if the institution demonstrates that—

(1) The State provides more than 30 percent of the institution's budget and the institution charges not more than \$99.00 for tuition and fees for an academic year;

(2) At least 30 percent of the students served by the institution in the base year were students from low-income families;

(3) The institution substantially increases the higher education opportunities for low-income students who are also educationally disadvantaged, underrepresented in postsecondary education, or minority students;

(4) The institution substantially increases the higher education opportunities for individuals who reside in an area that is not included in a "metropolitan statistical area" as defined by the Office of Management and Budget and who are unserved by other postsecondary institutions;

(5) The institution is located on or within 50 miles of an Indian reservation, or a substantial population of Indians and the institution will, if granted the waiver, substantially increase higher education opportunities for American Indians;

(6) It is a tribal college or university; or

(7) The institution will, if granted the waiver, substantially increase the higher education opportunities for Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans or Pacific Islanders, including Native Hawaiians.

(c) For the purpose of paragraph (b) of this section, the Secretary considers "low-income" to be an amount which does not exceed 150 percent of the amount equal to the poverty level as established by the United States Bureau of the Census.

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(d) Each year, the Secretary notifies prospective applicants through a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER of the low-income figures.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1058 and 1067)

[52 FR 30529, Aug. 14, 1987, as amended at 60 FR 15447, Mar. 23, 1995; 64 FR 70153, Dec. 15, 1999]

§ 607.4 What are low educational and general expenditures?

(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, for the purpose of § 6072(a)(2), an applicant institution's average educational and general expenditures per full-time equivalent undergraduate student in the base year must be less than the average educational and general expenditures per full-time equivalent undergraduate student of comparable institutions that offer similar institution in that year.

(2) For the purpose of paragraph (a)(1) of this section, the Secretary determines the average educational and general expenditure per FTE undergraduate student for institutions with graduate students that do not differentiate between graduate and undergraduate E&G expenditures by discounting the graduate enrollment using a factor of 2.5 times the number of graduate students.

(b) Each year, the Secretary notifies prospective applicants through a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER of the average educational and general expenditures per full-time equivalent undergraduate student at comparable institutions that offer similar instruction.

(c) The Secretary may waive the requirement contained in paragraph (a) of this section, if the Secretary determines, based upon persuasive evidence provided by the institution, that—

(1) The institution's failure to satisfy the criteria in paragraph (a) of this section was due to factors which, if used in determining compliance with those criteria, distorted that determination; and

(2) The institution's designation as an eligible institution under this part is otherwise consistent with the purposes of this part.

(d) For the purpose of paragraph (c)(1) of this section, the Secretary considers that the following factors

may distort an institution's educational and general expenditures per full-time equivalent undergraduate student—

- (1) Low student enrollment;
- (2) Location of the institution in an unusually high cost-of-living area;
- (3) High energy costs;
- (4) An increase in State funding that was part of a desegregation plan for higher education; or
- (5) Operation of high cost professional schools such as medical or dental schools.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1058 and 1067)

[59 FR 41922, Aug. 15, 1994]

§ 607.5 How does an institution apply to be designated an eligible institution?

An institution shall apply to the Secretary to be designated an eligible institution under the Strengthening Institutions Program by submitting an application to the Secretary in the form, manner and time established by the Secretary. The application must contain—

(a) The information necessary for the Secretary to determine whether the institution satisfies the requirements of §§ 607.2, 607.3(a) and 607.4(a);

(b) Any waiver request under §§ 607.3(b) and 607.4(c); and

(c) Information or explanations justifying any requested waiver.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1058 and 1067)

§ 607.6 What regulations apply?

The following regulations apply to the Strengthening Institutions Program:

(a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) as follows:

(1) 34 CFR part 74 (Administration of Grants to Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Nonprofit Organizations).

(2) 34 CFR part 75 (Direct Grant Programs), except 34 CFR 75.128(a)(2) and 75.129(a) in the case of applications for cooperative arrangements.

(3) 34 CFR part 77 (Definitions that Apply to Department Regulations).

(4) 34 CFR part 79 (Intergovernmental Review of Department of Education Programs and Activities).